

LAURENS DISTRICT 55 HIGH

5058 Highway 76 West
Laurens, South Carolina 29360

GRADES 9-12 High School

ENROLLMENT 1,657 Students

PRINCIPAL Tara A. Dean 864-682-3151

SUPERINTENDENT Edgar C. Taylor 864-984-3568

BOARD CHAIR Leni N. Patterson 864-682-2633

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2004

ABSOLUTE RATING:

GOOD

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
11	22	6	2	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

AVERAGE

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

NO

This school met 19 out of 21 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Good	Good	N/A
2002	Good	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2003	Good	Average	No
2004	Good	Average	No

DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE: SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
Passed 2 subtests	74.2	N/A	N/A	74.2	N/A	N/A
Passed 1 subtest	10.1	N/A	N/A	13.9	N/A	N/A
Passed no subtests	15.7	N/A	N/A	12.2	N/A	N/A

EXIT EXAM PASSAGE RATE BY SPRING 2004

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	95.6%	94.0%

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

Percent of	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	8.3	13.5
Seniors who met the SAT/ACT requirement	8.3	13.7
Seniors who met the grade point average	50.0	48.9

*Using only the SAT/ACT and grade point average requirements

GRADUATION RATE

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of Students	310	205
Number of Diplomas	199	150
Rate	64.2%	73.9%

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2004		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarship		Graduation Rate		
	n	%	n	%	n	%	Met State Objective
All Students	252	95.6	242	8.3	310	64.2	YES
Gender							
Male	116	94.8	110	7.3	158	53.2	N/A
Female	136	96.3	132	9.1	152	75.7	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	162	98.1	147	12.2	182	69.8	N/A
African-American	88	90.9	93	1.1	126	56.3	
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	1	I/S	2	I/S	2	I/S	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
Non disabled	232	96.6	216	8.8	270	70.0	N/A
Disabilities other than speech	20	85.0	26	3.8	40	25.0	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Non-migrant	251	95.6	242	8.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	1	I/S	1	I/S	1	I/S	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	251	95.6	241	8.3	307	64.5	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	84	92.9	108	4.6	131	58.0	N/A
Full-pay meals	168	97.0	134	11.2	179	68.7	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

HSAP PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 33.3%									
All Students	393	99.5	17.9	25.1	36.0	21.0	64.0	YES	YES
Gender									
Male	175	98.9	24.4	28.5	26.7	20.3	54.7	N/A	N/A
Female	218	100.0	12.6	22.4	43.5	21.5	71.5	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	256	99.6	9.9	19.0	43.1	28.1	77.1	YES	YES
African-American	130	99.2	33.9	37.0	22.0	7.1	38.6	YES	YES
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	324	99.4	7.5	26.6	42.3	23.5	74.0	N/A	N/A
Disabled	69	100.0	67.2	17.9	6.0	9.0	16.4	NO	YES
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	393	99.5	17.9	25.1	36.0	21.0	64.0	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	387	99.5	17.8	24.9	36.0	21.3	64.3	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	178	99.4	28.2	33.3	30.5	8.0	46.0	YES	YES
Full-pay meals	215	99.5	9.4	18.4	40.6	31.6	78.8	N/A	N/A
Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 30.0%									
All Students	393	99.0	21.9	28.9	27.3	21.9	57.6	YES	YES
Gender									
Male	175	97.7	27.1	25.9	21.2	25.9	52.9	N/A	N/A
Female	218	100.0	17.8	31.3	32.2	18.7	61.2	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	256	99.2	14.3	25.8	31.0	29.0	67.1	YES	YES
African-American	130	98.5	38.1	34.1	19.8	7.9	38.1	YES	YES
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	324	99.1	12.3	29.9	32.1	25.8	67.0	N/A	N/A
Disabled	69	98.6	68.2	24.2	4.5	3.0	12.1	NO	YES
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	393	99.0	21.9	28.9	27.3	21.9	57.6	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	387	99.0	22.2	28.5	27.2	22.2	57.5	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	178	98.3	33.1	32.0	23.3	11.6	44.2	YES	YES
Full-pay meals	215	99.5	12.7	26.4	30.7	30.2	68.4	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
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Students (n= 1,657)

Retention rate	14.3%	Up from 12.7%	10.2%	9.1%
Attendance rate	97.9%	Up from 95.2%	95.7%	96.0%
Eligible for gifted and talented	0.0%	No change	5.8%	5.8%
With disabilities other than speech	16.8%	Up from 15.8%	12.5%	12.7%
Older than usual for grade	11.9%	No change	9.8%	9.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.2%	Down from 2.5%	1.6%	1.6%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	8.1%	Down from 9.6%	9.1%	10.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	52.9%		50.1%	53.8%
Annual dropout rate	2.9%	Up from 2.0%	3.4%	2.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	5.1%	Up from 3.1%	4.9%	3.6%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	1326	Up from 1246	407	466
Students participating in worked-based experiences	11.2%	Down from 26.4%	19.6%	25.7%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	68.2%	Up from 64.2%	78.3%	77.7%
Career/technology completers placed	97.0%	Down from 100.0%	97.4%	99.3%

Teachers (n= 96)

Teachers with advanced degrees	55.2%	Up from 48.4%	49.5%	52.0%
Continuing contract teachers	78.1%	Up from 75.3%	83.1%	82.1%
Highly qualified teachers**	94.0%	N/A	90.9%	89.5%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	11.0%		8.3%	8.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	83.2%	Up from 80.3%	85.7%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	95.7%	N/R	95.3%	95.3%
Average teacher salary	\$40,545	Up 3.6%	\$40,576	\$41,060
Prof. development days/teacher	13.2 days	Up from 11.3 days	10.2 days	10.6 days

School

Principal's years at school	6.0	Up from 5.0	5.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.8 to 1	Up from 29.6 to 1	27.4 to 1	26.4 to 1
Prime instructional time	91.7%	N/R	89.4%	90.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,487	Down 5.4%	\$6,133	\$6,310
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	60.0%	Up from 57.1%	58.9%	57.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	95.1%	Down from 99.0%	91.1%	89.3%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	N/A	Average	Good

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	N/A	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	96.8%	91.1%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Highly qualified teachers in this school**	65.0%	Yes
Student attendance in this school	95.3%	Yes

**NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The 2003-04 school year was an outstanding one for our students and faculty. Our faculty continued to work on teaching writing strategies, including technical writing, creative writing, and writing within a particular subject area. We look forward to emphasizing reading next year for our students and faculty. Our district has initiated the reading program by opening all of our school libraries once a week this summer. Our senior class earned over one million dollars in scholarships this year. Seniors in Communication IV courses participated in Senior Project/SERVE. The curriculum is extensive and requires the students to choose a topic of their interest, find a mentor, produce a viable product, and make a formal presentation to a panel of judges for part of their grade. Our students excelled with Senior Project and learned invaluable life lessons. We are initiating Project Lead the Way next year. Rising ninth graders were given the opportunity to participate in this pre-engineering course that involves district, state, and national institutions. Our tenth graders took the first HSAP test that replaces BSAP. Students must pass both the English Language Arts component and Mathematics component before being eligible for a South Carolina High School Diploma. Laurens District 55 High students took End-of-Course Tests in Algebra I and Math Tech II that counted as 20% of their final grade. Laurens District 55 High was recognized by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) as one of its Top 50 High Schools in the nation. This award reflects the school's willingness to apply the SREB Key Practices in all classrooms. LDHS had 91 interns and over 1200 students involved in service learning. We increased our Career and Technical Education completers from 53 in 2003 to 80 in 2004. These students have completed 4 units or more in a Career and Technical field. Eighteen students received the NAEP Award for Educational Achievement. LDHS was also awarded the South Carolina Occupational Interest Survey (SCOIS) Career and Development Award for high schools. The faculty and staff committed to working one Saturday so that parents and students would have ample opportunity to register this spring for next year. The faculty also participated in workshops this spring on topics such as Brain Research and teaching strategies, Writing Lesson plans, Wellness for teachers, Working with LD students, Spanish For Teachers, Reading Comprehension, and many other opportunities to improve their teaching and our school. Our English Department was the recipient of a grant from the South Carolina State Department of Education in accordance with Janet Allen called the English I Pilot Project. The English Department, through this grant, has been allocated over a thousand new books for our students to read in 2004. English Teacher Debbie Fulton was also chosen as the High School Teacher of the Year and District 55 Teacher of the Year. We are optimistic about the future at Laurens District 55 High School. Our daily goal is to offer each student the opportunity to learn and prepare for their future careers and mold lifelong learners. Along with the success we had this year, we are confident that Laurens District 55 High School will constantly search for ways to better serve and prepare our students and community.

Mrs. Tara Dean, Principal School Improvement Chair-Mr. Robin Morse

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	90	272	142
Percent satisfied with learning environment	85.6%	58.7%	68.1%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	82.0%	65.7%	55.8%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	55.1%	81.3%	63.0%

*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade 11, only the highest grade was included.